

(b) *Optional filing.* Notwithstanding any exemption from filing, or other requirements of the Act and this part, any party to an exempt agreement may file such an agreement with the Commission.

(c) *Application for exemption.* Applications for exemptions shall conform to the general filing requirements for exemptions set forth at §502.67 of this title.

(d) *Retention of agreement by parties.* Any agreement which has been exempted by the Commission pursuant to section 16 of the Act shall be retained by the parties and shall be available upon request by the Bureau of Economics and Agreement Analysis for inspection during the term of the agreement and for a period of three years after its termination.

[49 FR 45351, Nov. 15, 1984, as amended at 59 FR 67230, Dec. 29, 1994; 61 FR 11574, Mar. 21, 1996; 64 FR 11241, Mar. 8, 1999]

§ 535.302 Non-substantive agreements and non-substantive modifications to existing agreements—exemption.

(a) A non-substantive agreement or a non-substantive modification to an existing agreement is an agreement between ocean common carriers and/or marine terminal operators, acting individually or through approved agreements, which:

(1) Concerns the procurement, maintenance, or sharing of office facilities, furnishings, equipment and supplies, the allocation and assessment of the costs thereof, or the provisions for the administration and management of such agreements by duly appointed individuals.

(2) Reflects changes in the name of any geographic locality stated therein; the name of the agreement or the name of a party to the agreement; the names and/or numbers of any other section 4 agreement or designated provisions thereof referred to in an agreement; the table of contents of an agreement; the date or amendment number through which agreements state they have been reprinted to incorporate prior revisions thereto or which corrects typographical and grammatical errors in the text of the agreement; or rennumbers or reletters articles or sub-

articles of agreements and references thereto in the text.

(3) Reflects changes in the titles or persons or committees designated therein or transfers the functions of such persons or committees to other designated persons or committees or which merely establishes a committee.

(b) A copy of the non-substantive agreement or modification shall be submitted for information purposes in the proper format but is otherwise exempt from the notice and waiting period requirements of the Act, and of this part.

(c) Parties to agreements may seek a determination from the Director, Bureau of Economics and Agreement Analysis as to whether a particular modification is non-substantive.

(d) The filing fee for such agreements is described in §535.401(f).

[49 FR 45351, Nov. 15, 1984, as amended at 50 FR 6944, Feb. 19, 1985; 59 FR 63908, Dec. 12, 1994; 59 FR 67230, Dec. 29, 1994; 61 FR 11574, Mar. 21, 1996]

§ 535.303 Husbanding agreements—exemption.

(a) A husbanding agreement is an agreement between a principal and an agent both of which are subject to the Act and which provides for the agent's handling of routine vessel operating activities in port, such as notifying port officials of vessel arrivals and departures; ordering pilots, tugs, and linehandlers; delivering mail; transmitting reports and requests from the Master to the owner/operator; dealing with passenger and crew matters; and providing similar services related to the above activities. The term does *not* include an agreement which provides for the solicitation or booking of cargoes, signing contracts or bills of lading and other related matters, nor does it include an agreement that prohibits the agent from entering into similar agreements with other carriers.

(b) A husbanding agreement is exempt from the filing requirements of the Act and of this part.

(c) The filing fee for such agreements is described in §535.401(f).

[49 FR 45351, Nov. 15, 1984 as amended at 49 FR 48927, Dec. 17, 1984; 59 FR 63908, Dec. 12, 1994; 61 FR 11574, Mar. 21, 1996]